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Treatment of Amoebic Dysentery in an Orang-utan.

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On July 2, 1938, a male orang-utan (*Pongo pygmaeus*) was purchased for the collection of the New York Zoological Park. The animal was a young male estimated about three years of age and weighing about 21 lbs. It had been captured in North Borneo, brought to Baltimore, Md., and finally bought by a New York dealer who sold it to the Park.

During the first few weeks that this orang was in the Hospital and Laboratory for routine quarantine prior to being placed on exhibition, it had an intermittent diarrhea. Examination of a fecal sample on July 18, 1938, showed the presence of a few amoebic trophozoites with the morphology of *Endamoeba histolytica*. In a watery stool passed on July 20 both trophozoites and cysts were very numerous.

On July 20 treatment was begun. Carbarsone (0.05 gms.) was administered three times daily either mixed with milk or in a slice of banana. This treatment was continued for seven days. Smears of fecal material made during treatment seemed to indicate a marked decrease in the number of trophozoites present. By the end of the week of treatment the orang was passing well-formed stools in which no amoebae could be demonstrated by the direct smear method. Eleven days following the completion of the treatment the animal again became diarrhetic. A few trophozoites were demonstrable in a fecal smear. The Carbarsone treatment was repeated three times daily for three days, when the diarrhea had been corrected and no parasites could be seen in a fecal smear. Since this last treatment about a year ago fecal smears have been examined more or less periodically, particularly whenever a loose stool was passed, but no trophozoites or cysts of *Endamoeba histolytica* could be demonstrated.

Since the animal arrived in the Park it has been kept under the best sanitary conditions possible with an exhibit primate. Its cage is cleaned at least daily and absorbent, dried, sugarcane stalks are used for bedding so that the risk of reinfection has been at a minimum.

The authors believe this case represents complete elimination of *Endamoeba histolytica* from the orang-utan by treatment with Carbarsone.